

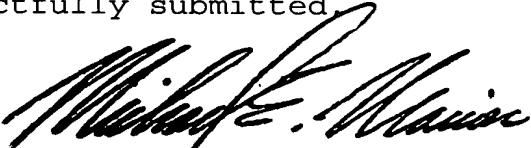
REMARKS

The foregoing amendments to the claims were made solely to avoid filing the claims in the multiple dependent form so as to avoid the additional filing fee.

The claims were not amended in order to address issues of patentability and Applicants respectfully reserve all rights they may have under the Doctrine of Equivalents. Applicants furthermore reserve their right to reintroduce subject matter deleted herein at a later time during the prosecution of this application or continuing applications.

Entry of the present preliminary amendment is respectfully requested, where the specification has been amended to include a priority claim reference to the provisional application serial no. 60/435,234 filed December 20, 2002.

Respectfully submitted,

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